Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image-view/1144168252/

USA Today (McLean, Virginia) · Mon, Jul 12, 2004 · Page 43
Downloaded on Nov 25, 2025

Plenty of gossip and 'stuff' about Hilary Duff

By William Keck
USA TODAY

HOLLYWOOD — *Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo* hoo hoo.

It's not so sweet being 16 when the only time you're legally allowed to hook up with hotties ages 18 and up is in the movies. That's the bizarre life of **Hilary Duff**, who seemingly should be about 25 by now but doesn't even turn 17 until Sept. 28.

"It was one of the weirder situations I've been put into in film."

— Chad Michael Murray, 22, on rehearsing a make-out session with *Cinderella Story* co-star Hilary Duff, 16

Saturday afternoon at the premiere for *A Cinderella Story* (opening in theaters Friday), Duff, wearing gold stilettos and a super-short glittery skirt and with bright pink glossy lips, once again was put in the position of having to deny her latest reported canoodling — this time with **Good Charlotte** singer **Joel Madden**, 25.

"Everybody talks so much stuff," Duff said on the Grauman's Chinese Theatre's pink carpet. "I can't have a boyfriend right now. And I'm definitely not interested in him. I think his band is cool, and we're friends, but we walk down the street together one time and all of a sudden we're like a couple."

A year ago, Duff sparked whispers of a romance with her *Cinderella Story* Prince Charming, **Chad Michael Murray**, 22, when the two were seen holding hands at the *Freaky Friday* premiere. Asked whether a romance developed off the set, *Cinderella Story* director **Mark Rosman** said, "You'll have to ask them."

Both, naturally, denied it.

"It would be a *huge* scandal," Duff conceded.

Rosman offered an account of rehearsing the co-stars' make-out session: "I needed Hilary to get over the nervousness, because Chad's a bit older, so I brought them into my trailer and told them, 'Start kissing — just kiss, kiss, kiss.' Then I left them alone to work on it for another 20 minutes or so, and when we finally filmed it again, it was great."

Said Murray: "It was one of the weirder situations I've been put into in film." The actor's date was **Sophia Bush**, 22, his *One Tree Hill* WB co-star and real-life fiancée.

Duff brought her older sister, actress/singer **Haylie Duff**, 19, who said she and Hil will be starring in their own concert tour "reality" series — as animated characters.

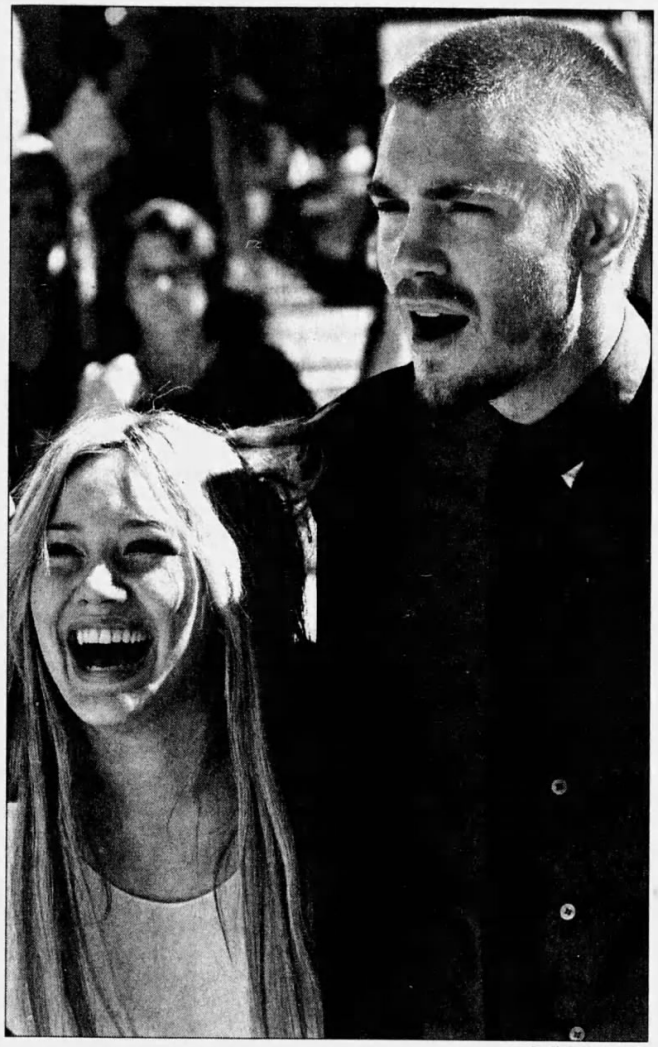
In two weeks, Haylie will release her next single, *Screwed*, and says she has blocked **Paris Hilton** from attempting to release the same song. "Paris has talked to the people who wrote the song, and I think it's all under control now," Haylie said.

Among the guests who declined to wear masks to the Masquerade Ball after-party: **Jason Ritter** and *8 Simple Rules*' **Amy Davidson.** Both are prepping themselves for Sept. 11, which will be the one-year anniversary of the death of Jason's dad, and Amy's TV dad, John Ritter.

"It will be the first one, so no ritual has been established yet," said Ritter, who regularly visits his father's grave.

Davidson said she has not yet visited Ritter's grave but imagines she'll find herself there on the anniversary.

"I don't know where else to spend that day."



By Chris Pizzello, AP

Just friends: Hilary Duff and Chad Michael Murray deny rumors of a romance on the set of *A Cinderella Story*, which had its premiere Saturday in Hollywood.

Plenty of Gossip and 'Stuff' About Hilary Duff

Clipped By:
C_St_Reed
Nov 25, 2025

Copyright © 2025 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.